

VARIATIONS IN PODOPHYLLUM PELTATUM, LINN.—

2

3

6

7

In a copse of 2 to 3 acres in extent, situated on the southern slope of Chestnut Hill, not quite half a mile north of Lafayette College, Easton, Penn., the plant grows in great abundance, and here, about 6 or 7 years ago, my attention was arrested by the appearance of several singular forms. These, reproduced, as they have been, every year since, seem to me worthy of record, and the rough drawings here given are sufficiently accurate to show the aberration from the prevailing type. Nothing of the kind ever fell under my notice before, but Mr. W. M. Canby informs me that he has found No. 4 or 5, or both, near Wilmington, Del., and all of them, and perhaps still other variations, are likely to be discovered elsewhere, if search be made.

No. 1 represents the common flowerless stem (never so tall as that of No. 2) arising from the rhizoma (r) and crowned by its umbrella-shaped, equally-peltate leaf.

No. 2 is the common flowering stem, divided above and bearing on each branch an unequally-peltate leaf, with the single flower in the fork on a peduncle from 1 to 2 inches long.

No. 3 is the same, except that the peduncle is borne on one of the branches 2 or more inches above the fork.

No. 4 is twice forked and has 3 leaves, with the flower borne in the fork between the upper leaves.

No. 5 is the same, except that the peduncle arises from one of the branches 2 or more inches above the upper fork.

No. 6 is like No. 2, but one branch is shorter and more slender, leaving a much smaller leaf which is only 3-lobed, evidently a transitional state between No. 2 and the next.

No. 7 is No. 2 with one of the branches wholly suppressed, the remaining branch assuming an erect position. This is the most common of the aberrant forms and is more abundant than ever this year.

No. 8 is No. 2 with both branches suppressed. It might pass for a scape, were not the stem just as thick and the peduncle as slender as usual.

No. 4 and 5 furnish good and well marked examples of acceleration in development, and Nos. 6, 7 and 8, of retardation, both occurring in the same species and in the same place.

In the last edition of his Manual, Dr. Gray states that *Podophyllum peltatum* has been found with *several carpels*, instead of *one*, and I may add that two such instances have fallen under my observation.—Thos. C. Porter, *Easton*, *Penn*.

Some Notes on Nepeta Glechoma and Other Plants.—I have just returned from a second short visit to Pulaski Co., Virginia. *Holesia tetraptera* was just coming into bloom (April 26), *Draba verna* fully expanded, and *Sedum Nevii* not yet in flower-

In Pulaski, Draper's Valley, I again examined Nepeta (May 18) The plants with crosses have increased in numbers, speading up the hill from the spot where they were at first confined to a space of a few yards. I send you the following measurements:

		Without Crosses
Greatest width of flower	7-16	4-16
Extreme length of flower	14-16	6-16 to 8-16
Extreme length of calyx	4-16	3-16
Size of crosses, i.e. length of arms	1-32	
8	2 0.0	

Clear length of the corolla.

14-16
$$\begin{cases} \text{Tube } 9\text{-}16 \\ \text{4-}16 \text{ Dilated part of tube.} \end{cases}$$
 Lobes 5-16

Larger flower with crosses.—

Corolla tube much dilated, hairy, mottled with purple spots, imitating very much *Physostegia Virginiana*; throat (lower lobe of corolla) beset with thick white hairs or glands 1-16 inch in length; stem square, the edges bristly downwards. Calyx 16-ribbed, bristly. Pistil closely set in the groove of the upper lip. Upper anthers (cross) just below summit of upper lobe, say 1-32 inch below; lower anthers (cross) white or reddish!, just at summit of undivided tube, i. e. at base of upper lobe. 1-16 inch of flower exserted from calyx.

Color pink, or light-reddish purple.

Smaller flower without crosses.— Corolla tube slightly, if at all, dilated, closely hairy with small hairs.

Hairs delicate, 1-32 inch in length.

Bifurcated pistil sheering off from upper lip of corolla. Upper anthers (no cross) below the top of undivided tube, lower ones 1-32 inch below the upper.

Corolla and calyx together less than 8-16 inch.

Color dark-bluish purple, or rather purplish blue, often called by persons a blue flower.

Both plants were maturing from one to four seeds; one seed, frequently, much larger than the others. At Mr. Draper's the two plants were at times intermingled, but